

What is claimed is:

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 45% identical to the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, 2, 14 or 15, the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, or a complement thereof;
 - b) a nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment of at least 300 nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, 2, 14 or 15, the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, or a complement thereof;
 - c) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225; and
 - d) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a fragment of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225;
2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, which is selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, 2, 14 or 15, the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, or a complement thereof; and
 - b) a nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225;
3. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

4. The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.
5. A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
6. The host cell of claim 5 which is a mammalian host cell.
7. A non-human mammalian host cell containing the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
8. An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a fragment of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16;
 - b) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of plasmids deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:2 or 15, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions; and
 - c) a polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 45% identical to a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or 15, or at least 98% to a nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or 15, or a complement thereof.
9. The isolated polypeptide of claim 8 comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16.
10. The polypeptide of claim 8 further comprising heterologous amino acid sequences.

11. An antibody which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8.
12. The antibody of claim 11, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
13. A method for producing a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225,.
 - b) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, wherein the fragment comprises at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225; and
 - c) a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or 16, or the amino acid sequence encoded by the cDNA insert of the plasmid deposited with the ATCC as Accession Number 207180 or PTA-225, wherein the polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NO:1 or 14, or a complement thereof under stringent conditions;
comprising culturing the host cell of claim 5 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.
14. A method for detecting the presence of a polypeptide of claim 8 in a sample, comprising:
 - a) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8; and
 - b) determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide in the sample.
15. The method of claim 14, wherein the compound which binds to the polypeptide is an antibody.

16. A kit comprising a compound which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8 and instructions for use.

17. A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 in a sample, comprising the steps of:

- a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe or primer which selectively hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and
- b) determining whether the nucleic acid probe or primer binds to a nucleic acid molecule in the sample.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the sample comprises mRNA molecules and is contacted with a nucleic acid probe.

19. A kit comprising a compound which selectively hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 and instructions for use.

20. A method for identifying a compound which binds to a polypeptide of claim 8 comprising the steps of:

- a) contacting a polypeptide, or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a test compound; and
- b) determining whether the polypeptide binds to the test compound.

21. The method of claim 20, wherein the binding of the test compound to the polypeptide is detected by a method selected from the group consisting of:

- a) detection of binding by direct detecting of test compound/polypeptide binding;
- b) detection of binding using a competition binding assay;
- c) detection of binding using an assay for TANGO 268-mediated signal transduction.

22. A method for modulating the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8 comprising contacting a polypeptide or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a compound which binds to the polypeptide in a sufficient concentration to modulate the activity of the polypeptide.

23. A method for identifying a compound which modulates the activity of a polypeptide of claim 8, comprising:

- a) contacting a polypeptide of claim 8 with a test compound; and
- b) determining the effect of the test compound on the activity of the polypeptide to thereby identify a compound which modulates the activity of the polypeptide.